

Spring 2-12-2017

Duo Nouveau: From Baroque to Bowie

Lehigh University Music Department

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Lehigh University Music Department, "Duo Nouveau: From Baroque to Bowie" (2017). *Performance Programs*. 79.
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Lehigh University Music Department

2016-2017 Season
Baker Hall
Zoellner Arts Center
www.lehigh.edu/music

 LU MusicDept

Lehigh University Music Department presents

DUO NOUVEAU:
From Baroque
to Bowie

featuring harpists

**Andrea Wittchen &
Samantha Wittchen**

Sunday, February 12, 2017

3:00 pm

Baker Hall

Zoellner Arts Center

Welcome to Zoellner Arts Center!

We hope you will take advantage of all the facilities, including Baker Hall, the Diamond and Black Box Theaters, as well as the Art Galleries and the Museum Shop. There are restrooms on every floor and concession stands in the two lobbies. For ticket information, call (610) 758-2787 or visit www.zoellnerartscenter.org.

To ensure the best experience for everyone, please:

- Bring no food or drink into any of the theaters
- Refrain from talking while music is being performed
- Refrain from applause between movements
- Do not use flash photography or recording devices
- Turn off all pagers and cellular phones
- Turn off alarms on wrist watches
- Do not smoke anywhere in the facilities

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program cover illustration by Sergius Hruby (Austrian, 1869-1943)

PROGRAM

Greensleeves

Traditional
arr. Cindy Horstman

Premiere Duo

Johann Baptiste Krumpholtz
(1742-1790)

Too Hot to Handel

Georg Frederic Handel
(1685-1759)
arr. Andrea Wittchen

Ma Mère l'Oye

Maurice Ravel
(1875-1937)
arr. John Escosa

- I. Pavane de la Belle au bois dormant
- II. Petit Poucet
- IV. Laideronnette, Impératrice des Pagodes
- V. Le Jardin Féerique

Ragtime Suite

- I. The Easy Winners
 - II. Solace - A Mexican Serenade
 - III. The Crush Collision March
- Scott Joplin
(1868-1917)
arr. Denes Agay
arr. A & S Wittchen
arr. Susan Jolles

Mack the Knife (from The Threepenny Opera)

Kurt Weill
(1900-1950)
arr. Willi März

Ziggy Harpist

David Bowie
(1947-2016)
arr. Samantha Wittchen

Parvois (Cortège et Danse)

Bernard Andrès
(b. 1941)

Duo Nouveau, the harp duo of Andrea and Samantha Wittchen, performs an eclectic mix of music ranging from classical to pop with some ragtime along the way. This mother/daughter combo is celebrating twenty years of performances together, appearing first when Samantha was still a high school student. Their goal has always been to take the harp off its heavenly pedestal and make it more accessible to modern audiences. Their concerts showcase both original works for two harps as well as inventive arrangements of music from other idioms. In addition, they share information on the harp's quirky history and the mysteries of how it is played. The Wittchen ladies have performed on a variety of concert series including at Musikfest, the Covenant Presbyterian Concert Series in Scranton, and for Historic Bethlehem's Taylor Concert Series.



Andrea G. Wittchen is well-known throughout eastern Pennsylvania as a solo, chamber, and orchestral harpist. Principal Harpist with the Lehigh Valley Chamber Orchestra (LVCO) and the Schuylkill Symphony Orchestra for twenty-six years, she currently teaches harp at both Lehigh University and Moravian College as well as maintaining a private studio.

She has appeared many times as soloist with the LVCO, the Schuylkill Symphony, and the Bloomsburg University Orchestra. In February 2003, Ms. Wittchen, in collaboration with the LVCO, commissioned Steven Sametz's concerto for two harps and chamber orchestra, *Earth, Wind, Fire*, and premiered the work with her daughter, Samantha, and the LVCO. A revised and expanded version of the concerto was re-premiered by Ms. Wittchen and her daughter at Lehigh University in October 2010. In April 2017 she will be appearing as guest soloist with the Southwest Symphony in Hobbs, NM in performances of Debussy's "Dances: Sacrée et Profane" and Saint-Saëns' "Morceau de Concert".

Ms. Wittchen has performed as a solo recitalist three times as part of Musikfest's Chamber Series as well as on recital series throughout the region. In addition, she provides educational programs on the harp, its history and development for the public schools and performs as the harp portion of the flute/harp duo, Élan.

Ms. Wittchen's most recent endeavor is the creation of The Wittchen Initiative, an ensemble comprised of two harps, voice, and tuba/trombone, dedicated to the development of public appreciation for the harp in diverse musical genres. The Initiative explores the harp's use in jazz, blues, country, Broadway, contemporary, pop and world music as well as presenting original compositions. They released their first CD in February 2009 and their second CD of all original music in February 2011 accompanied by a performance at Zoellner Arts Center. The Initiative is available on iTunes, Spotify and other streaming services.

Ms. Wittchen has performed with such stars as Bernadette Peters, Brian Wilson of the Beach Boys, Marilyn Horne, Johnny Mathis, Olivia Newton-John, Debbie Boone, and Rosemary Clooney. Her orchestral work includes most of the orchestral and choral performing groups in Northeast Pennsylvania. She has broadcast for WVIA (NPR) Scranton and at Lehigh University appears regularly with the Philharmonic Orchestra, the Lehigh University Choral Union and Choir, and at Lehigh Vespers.

Ms. Wittchen holds a Bachelor of Music degree in harp performance, magna cum laude, from Jacksonville University, FL, and a Master of Music degree in harp performance from the Eastman School of Music of the University of Rochester, NY as well as an MBA from Lehigh University.

A native of Bethlehem, PA, **Samantha Wittchen** was immersed in music from a very young age, first beginning piano lessons at the age of four, and then adding the harp to her musical studies. She spent two years studying harp performance under Kathleen Bride at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, NY and then studied with Heidi O'Gara at the University of Virginia while completing a degree in mechanical engineering.

Since returning to Pennsylvania in 2001, Ms. Wittchen has lived in Philadelphia, PA, and stays busy as a freelance harpist and teacher in the Philadelphia region. She has performed with the

Pottstown Symphony, the Allentown Symphony, the Lehigh Valley Chamber Orchestra (LVCO), the Schuylkill Symphony and the Northeastern Pennsylvania Philharmonic. She has also performed in studio orchestras for such recording artists as McCoy Tyner, Olivia Newton-John and Connie Francis and appeared as a harpist in the 2009 movie *Law-Abiding Citizen*. In May 2008, Ms. Wittchen traveled to Michigan to fill the role of parlor harpist at the historic Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island.

In 2003, she and her mother, Andrea Wittchen, world-premiered the original version of the two harp concerto with the LVCO titled *Earth, Wind, Fire* by Steven Sametz. A revised and expanded version of the concerto was re-premiered by Ms. Wittchen and her mother at Lehigh University in October 2010.

Ms. Wittchen is most interested in taking the harp to a new level by using it in contexts where it is least expected. She makes up one-quarter of the Wittchen Initiative, a two harp, tuba and voice group that performs an eclectic mix of music adapted for this unique instrumentation that runs the gamut from jazz standards to modern radio pop selections to original tunes. Ms. Wittchen is the group's primary arranger. She is currently a professional associate for harp at the University of Pennsylvania, and in 2013, she launched Philly Music Lab (PML) with violinist Alexandra Cutler-Farkowicz and tubist Dan Nosheny. Through a mix of community building and music contracting, PML specializes in connecting diverse, cross-genre musicians to new audiences and each other with the goals of promoting and supporting high-quality live music throughout the Philadelphia region.

ZOELLNER

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2016 – 2017 Season

September

24 at 8 pm

Hell's Kitchen Funk Orchestra: *Hot off the Press*

October

1 at 7 pm

Dalí String Quartet: Horger Artists-in-Residence

30 at 3 pm

Christopher Gross, cellist: Horger Artist-in-Residence Faculty Recital

November

4 & 5 at 8 pm

LU Choral Arts: *Rise Up!*

12 at 8 pm

LU Jazz Orchestra: *Big Band and Funk with Lou Marini*

13 at 2 pm

Lehigh Student Chamber Music Ensembles

17 at 7 pm

Lehigh-Lafappella concert

December

3 at 8 pm

LU Jazz Ensemble, Funk Band and Combos

4 at 3 pm

Wind Ensemble at Lehigh University: *Jubilee*

9 & 10 at 8 pm

LU Philharmonic: *Mahler Symphony No. 6*

11 at 4, 8 pm

LU Choral Arts: *Christmas Vespers* in Packer Chapel

17 at 1, 4 pm

The Nutcracker at Zoellner Arts Center

18 at 2 pm

The Nutcracker at Zoellner Arts Center

February

11 at 8 pm

NY Jazz Repertory Orchestra: *Classic to Contemporary Big Band*

12 at 3 pm

Andrea and Samantha Wittchen: *Harp Duo recital*

17 at 7:30

Dolce and LU Women's Voices Concert: *Raise Your Voice*

19 at 3 pm

LU Jazz Faculty: *American Standards*

24 & 25 at 8 pm

LU Philharmonic: *Concerto Marathon*

March

2 at 8 pm

Ian Rosenbaum, percussionist: Ulrich Artist-in-Residence Recital

4 at 8 pm

Dalí String Quartet and Ian Rosenbaum, percussionist

5 at 3 pm

East Winds Quintet: *Serendipity*

26 at 3 pm

Faculty Recital: Michael Jorgensen, violin: *The Brahms Violin Sonatas*

31 at 8 pm

LU Choir, Glee Club and Dolce: *Spanish Nights*

April

1 at 8 pm

LU Choir, Glee Club and Dolce: *Spanish Nights*

2 at 3 pm

Lehigh Student Chamber Music Ensembles at St. Peter's Church

8 at 8 pm

LU Jazz Orchestra: *Sketches of Spain*

9 at 7 pm

Karen Huffstodt, Faculty Recital: *The Women of Kurt Weill*

22 at 8 pm

LU Jazz Ensemble, Funk Band and Combos

23 at 2 pm

LU Symphonic Band

23 at 4:30 pm

Senior Recitalist: Peter Schaedler, clarinet

23 at 6:30 pm

Senior Recitalist: Kaitlyn Ruffing, flute

28 & 29 at 8 pm

LU Philharmonic: *Holst: The Planets*

May

5 at 7:30 pm

LU Choral Arts with Joyful Noise: *Everytime I Feel the Spirit!*

6 at 4 pm

LU Choral Arts with Joyful Noise: *Everytime I Feel the Spirit!*

7 at 3 pm

The Wind Ensemble at Lehigh University: *British & American Classics*

8 at 4 pm

LU Music Department Awards

8 at 8 pm

LU Opera Scenes Workshop Concert